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the FINAL CHAPTER PART 2 of 4

PETER PARKER SPIDER-MAN®

MACKIE
ROMITA Jr.
HANNA

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I CAN'T BELIEVE IT... ***NORMAN OSBORN IS THE GREEN GOBLIN.***

HE'S LETTING US HELP HIM WITH THE NEW COSTUME.

THERE'S SOMETHING DIFFERENT ABOUT HIM EVER SINCE THAT GATHERING OF FIVE CEREMONY.

MAN! I GOTTA GET ANOTHER JOB.

THE ALISON MONGRAIN SITUATION... HAS IT BEEN RESOLVED?

YES, SIR, MISTER OSBORN, SIR, BUT...

BUT...***WHAT,*** LEONARD?

Amazing Spider-**Man #441** – Gathering of Ralf.

SPIDER-MAN...HE SHOWED UP OUT OF NOWHERE...HE INTERFERED BEFORE SHE COULD BE ELIMINATED...SHE GOT TO THE PARKERS... MONGRAIN -- SHE SPOKE TO THEM.
WE DON'T KNOW HOW MUCH SHE TOLD THEM, BUT...
...PLEASE DON'T KILL ME!
LEONARD, CALM YOURSELF.
I KNOW IT MUST BE HARD TO VIEW MY GOD-LIKE COUNTENANCE WITHOUT TREMBLING WITH FEAR...
...BUT YOU MUST KNOW THAT DESPITE THE POWER GRANTED ME BY THE GATHERING OF FIVE, I AM STILL A MAN.
THE MOST POWERFUL MAN ON THE FACE OF THIS PLANET, BUT STILL A MAN.
WHAT'S DONE IS DONE. I KNOW WHERE MONGRAIN WILL HAVE SENT SPIDER-MAN.
HE WANTS THAT WHICH IS HIS...
...THAT WHICH I TOOK FROM HIM MONTHS AGO.
HE WANTS HIS MAY.
BUT IT IS ***FAR*** TOO LATE FOR A PARKER FAMILY REUNION TO END HAPPILY NOW.
MAY PLAYS AN ESSENTIAL ROLE IN MY FUTURE PLANS.
AND I WILL NOT BE THWARTED.
ESPECIALLY NOT BY SPIDER-MAN.
THE TIME FOR A FINAL RECKONING BETWEEN THE WEB-SPINNER AND MYSELF HAS ***COME***.
JEEZ! THAT NEW GLIDER OF HIS KICKS UP SOME SERIOUS SMOKE.
GUYS. I CAN'T BELIEVE HE LET US OFF LIKE THIS.
GUYS. MAYBE HIM THINKING OF HIMSELF AS A GOD COULD BE A ***GOOD*** THING.
GUYS! WHAT THE--?

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LOOK!

Oh BOY.

STAN LEE PRESENTS

SPIDER-MAN

the FINAL CHAPTER PART 2 of 4

LET THE HEAVENS TREMBLE AT THE POWER OF THE GOBLIN!

HOWARD MACKIE

JOHN ROMITA JR.

SCOTT HANNA

STORY AND ART

RICHARD STARKINGS AND COMICRAFT/SH LETTERING

GREGORY WRIGHT COLORS

RALPH MACCHIO EDITOR

BOB HARRAS CHIEF

ONE HOUR LATER, AT THE GATES OF THE UPSTATE NEW YORK HUNTING LODGE OF NORMAN OSBORN...

TRESPASSERS WILL BE PROSECUTED

DANGER

NO TRESPASSING

TRESPASSERS WILL BE PROSECUTED

PROSECUTE *THIS*, NORMAN!

I CAN'T BELIEVE IT'S TRUE!

THWIPP

SHE'S ALIVE AFTER ALL THESE MONTHS!

OUR BABY HAS BEEN ALIVE ALL ALONG!

THIS IS TWISTED EVEN FOR NORMAN.

I NEVER SUSPECTED THAT HE WOULD HAVE GONE *THAT* FAR.

TO TAKE OUR BABY FROM US...LET US THINK SHE WAS DEAD...LET MARY JANE GO THROUGH --

-- IT ENDS TONIGHT, NORMAN!

THWIP

WHOA!

THE TREE BRANCH MOVED BEFORE MY WEB-LINE COULD CONNECT.

WAIT A MINUTE-- THERE'S ***NO*** WIND! IT'S AS THOUGH IT PURPOSEFULLY PULLED OUT OF THE WAY.

THAT SPIKED PLANT ISN'T LOOKING LIKE IT WILL MAKE THE SOFTEST SPOT FOR A LANDING, SO...

THIS IS THE BEST YOU'VE ***GOT***, NORMAN?

THWIP

KILLER PLANTS TO GUARD YOUR SECRETS?

LIKE I HAVEN'T SWUNG MY WAY OUT OF WORSE.

LIKE I COULDN'T SWING MY WAY OUT OF IT WITH MY EYES CLOSED --

OOLPH!

KRAK

WHERE DID THAT BRANCH COME FROM?

IT WASN'T THERE A SECOND AGO.

OKAY. GOT TO TAKE A DEEP BREATH AND SLOW DOWN.

NORMAN IS USING THIS FOREST AS HIS FIRST LINE OF DEFENSE.

I WAS TOO FREAKED OUT BY THE THOUGHTS OF MY BABY GIRL BEING HELD IN A PLACE LIKE THIS TO NOTICE BEFORE, LET MY ANGER OVERRIDE MY SPIDER-SENSE, BUT...

...I'VE GOT TO CALM DOWN, TAKE IT EASY AND GET TO HER.

NORMAN IS ***NOT*** WINNING THIS ONE.

IN ANOTHER PLACE AND, IN MOST WAYS, ANOTHER WORLD...

GIANNI VERMICELLI

YOU ARE AS STUNNING AS YOU WERE WHEN YOU LEFT US, MARY JANE!

TO THINK THAT THE WORLD SHOULD BE DEPRIVED OF SUCH BEAUTY!

IT WOULD BE A SIN!

THANK YOU, GIANNI.

NO! THANK *YOU!*

CAN YOU BELIEVE I'M HERE, JILL?

IF IT WASN'T FOR THE FACT THAT THIS DRESS COST MORE THAN I'VE BEEN MAKING IN A YEAR, AND THAT MY STOMACH IS DOING FLIP-FLOPS, I'D FEEL LIKE I'M PLAYING DRESS-UP.

DO I REALLY LOOK OKAY?

CUT IT OUT, MJ! YOU LOOK BEAUTIFUL!

I CAN'T BELIEVE MY BEST FRIEND IS GOING TO BE THE COVER GIRL FOR THE GIANNI VERMICELLI FALL LINE.

LIFE'S FUNNY, ISN'T IT?

NO KIDDING. LOOK AT ME...I'VE MADE PEACE WITH SPIDER-MAN AND WITH MY COUSIN GWEN'S DEATH.

IT'S FUNNY HOW LIFE CATCHES UP WITH YOU AND WORKS ITSELF OUT.

Uh-Huh.

PETER.

I WANT YOU HERE WITH ME...

...HERE INSTEAD OF CHASING GHOSTS FROM OUR PAST.

LET THEM REST.

PLEASE.

MEANWHILE...

SPIDER-SENSE IS GOING *CRAZY!*

DON'T EVEN KNOW WHICH DIRECTION TO EXPECT AN ATTACK TO COME FROM.

BUT I'M ***NOT*** STOPPING.

MAY IS NOT SPENDING ANOTHER SECOND IN THAT MADMAN'S HANDS.

SOMETHING'S COMING. I CAN FEEL IT IN EVERY BONE IN MY BODY.

ONLY THING TO DO IS MEET IT HEAD-ON!

COME ON!

LET'S GET THIS OVER --

-- WITH?

WHAT THE --?

DON'T KNOW WHAT THESE THINGS ARE, OR HOW NORMAN IS MANAGING THIS, AND...

KRAK

...I DON'T REALLY CARE!

YOU'RE ALL JUST A BUNCH OF OBSTACLES TO ME RIGHT NOW!

FWAP

I SEE NORMAN'S BROKEN OUT THE OLD JUNIOR SCIENTIST GENETIC MUTATION KIT HE GOT FOR CHRISTMAS!

WONDER WHAT YOU WERE BEFORE HE GOT STARTED PLAYING AROUND WITH YOU.

NOW THE BEST THING YOU COULD DO FOR YOURSELF IS RUN AWAY!

GOOD BOY...GIRL... OR WHATEVER YOU ARE.

NOW, IF THE REST OF YOU DON'T MIND...

...I'M OFF TO FIND MY CHILD.

GETTING A LITTLE THICKER, AND A *LOT* SHARPER, HERE.

IT'S GOING TO TAKE SOME EFFORT JUST TO MAKE SURE I DON'T SLICE MYSELF TO RIBBONS.

BINGO!

STATELY OSBORN MANOR!

WELCOME TO MY HOME, SPIDER-MAN, BUT...

...*THIS* IS WHERE YOUR JOURNEY ENDS.

YOU JUST HAVE NOT LIVED UP TO MY EXPECTATIONS IN THIS FINAL DRAMA OF OURS.

I HAD SUCH HOPES AND PLANS. I HAD LEFT CLUES FOR YOU TO DISCOVER AND...NOTHING. I AM SURPRISED THAT YOU HAVE DONE AS WELL AS YOU HAVE IN SCHOOL.

BUT THAT WAS A DIFFERENT LIFETIME AGO. IN THE PAST YOU HAD ONLY NORMAN OSBORN WITH WHOM TO CONTEND, BUT NOW, AFTER THE POWER GRANTED ME BY THE GATHERING OF FIVE CEREMONY...

...YOU MUST CONTEND WITH THE ***GREEN GOBLIN!***

WHAT IS ALL THIS ABOUT, NORMAN?

YOU THINK ***THIS*** WILL STOP ME FROM GETTING MY DAUGHTER BACK? THE DAUGHTER YOU ***STOLE*** FROM US?

IS THAT WHAT MONGRAIN TOLD YOU?

HA HA HA

FORGIVE ME. I'M SURE THIS IS ALL VERY SERIOUS TO YOU, BUT YOU HAVE TO UNDERSTAND...

...HERE. PLEASE TAKE A LOOK. IT WAS ***ALWAYS*** INTENDED THAT YOU FIND THIS, BUT, ONCE AGAIN, YOU DISAPPOINTED ME.

I HAD IT ALL READY THE NIGHT YOU SHOWED UP AT MY OFFICE AND ASSAULTED ME. WHILE ***THAT*** ATTACK DID AID MY LITTLE MELODRAMA, IT DID TAKE THINGS IN QUITE A DIFFERENT DIRECTION.

THIS *OSBORN JOURNAL*, IF YOU WILL, IS FILLED WITH TRUTHS AND LIES, BUT ***YOU*** WERE SUPPOSED TO SEE IT AS THE WAY TO FINALLY CONVINCE EVERYONE OF THE ***EVIL*** OF NORMAN OSBORN.

YOU WERE SUPPOSED TO BRING IT TO THE AUTHORITIES, BUT WATCH...

THE WORDS?

THEY'RE DISAPPEARING! ***CHANGING!***

EXACTLY! HAD YOU EVER RETRIEVED THE JOURNAL AS I PLANNED -- YOU WOULD HAVE TURNED IT OVER TO THE AUTHORITIES CONVINCED THAT IT WOULD HAVE MEANT THE FALL OF NORMAN OSBORN, BUT...

...INSTEAD THEY WOULD HAVE READ THE JOURNALS OF A CONCERNED CITIZEN. A MAN LIVING IN TERROR OF SPIDER-MAN.

AND THEY WOULD HAVE LEARNED THE REASON FOR OSBORN'S FEAR WAS THAT HE HAD FINALLY LEARNED THE IDENTITY OF THE MAN BEHIND THE MASK.

AND THEY WOULD HAVE LEARNED THAT PETER PARKER, THE MAN WHO IS SPIDER-MAN, HAD POISONED HIS AGED AUNT MAY UPON ***HER*** LEARNING OF HIS IDENTITY.

NO!

IT'S OVER, SPIDER-MAN.

I TIRE OF THIS GAME OF OURS WHICH HAS PLAYED OUT ACROSS A SPAN OF YEARS.

I AM TIRED OF THE PERSONAL VENDETTA I HAVE WAGED AGAINST YOU.

PERHAPS IT IS MY NEWFOUND GODHOOD, OR MAYBE IT IS THE ***DNA BOMB***, WITH WHICH I AM PLANNING TO RESHAPE THE WORLD IN MY OWN IMAGE, THAT HAS NOW TAKEN CENTER STAGE!

EITHER WAY --

--YOU MUST DIE!

FRAKOOM

AT THAT MOMENT, A PRESS CONFERENCE TAKES PLACE AT AN EXCLUSIVE RESTAURANT ON MANHATTAN'S UPPER EAST SIDE.

MARY JANE PARKER HAS NEVER BEEN MORE IN THE SPOTLIGHT THAN SHE IS AT THIS MOMENT.

AND YET, DESPITE ALL THE ATTENTION AND ADULATION, HER MIND IS SOMEWHERE ELSE.

WHAT IF PETER IS RIGHT?

WHAT IF OUR BABY IS ALIVE?

WHAT IF *MAY* IS ALIVE?

WHAT IF -- WHAT AM I DOING *HERE?!*

MJ? YOU OKAY?

WHAT?

Oh, YEAH, JILL.

WHAT COULD BE BETTER THAN *THIS?*

WHAT IF...?

YOU ARE **NOT** STOPPING ME, GOBLIN!

I'M GOING TO GET THE BABY FROM YOU!

I'M GOING TO SEE YOU LIVING THE REST OF YOUR LIFE BEHIND BARS!

HA HA HA

YOU DON'T GET IT!

I NEVER **TOOK** YOUR CHILD! THE BABY D--

NO!

NO MORE **LIES!**

OOLPH!!

YOU KNOW, SPIDER-MAN, WE STAND ON THE DAWN OF A NEW AGE OF MAN.

AN AGE WHICH WILL BE FASHIONED IN MY *IMAGE!*

BUT, AS WITH *ANY* GREAT ACT OF CREATION THERE WILL BE SOME CASUALTIES AND A SIGNIFICANT AMOUNT OF PAIN.

TO THAT END YOU MIGHT CONSIDER MY KILLING YOU A GIFT BESTOWED UPON AN OLD FRIEND OF THE OSBORN FAMILY!

THANKS FOR THE GENEROUS OFFER, NORMAN, BUT I'M AFRAID I'M GONG TO HAVE TO REFUSE...

... ON ACCOUNT OF YOUR BEING A *NUT CASE!*

KRAK

AND NORMAN...

... I DON'T CARE ABOUT YOUR INSANE PLAN FOR WORLD DOMINATION.

IT MAY BE A NEW ONE FOR YOU...

... BUT I'VE SEEN A FEW OTHER PEOPLE FALL ON THEIR MEGALOMANIACAL FACES WONDERING WHO'LL BRING THEIR SLIPPERS IN THE *"NEW ORDER"*!

THERE IS ONLY ***ONE*** THING THAT MATTERS TO ME.

AND ***SHE*** IS INSIDE THAT HOUSE!

KRAK

YOU ***SHOULD*** CARE, SPIDER-MAN!

AND IF YOU ONLY KNEW HOW CLOSE I AM TO ACHIEVING MY GOAL, YOU ***WOULD*** CARE!

THERE IS A LARGE PART OF ME THAT REALLY PITIES YOU, NORMAN.

YOU AND ALL THE PEOPLE UNFORTUNATE ENOUGH TO HAVE BEEN TOUCHED BY YOUR CORRUPTION.

HARRY. HE WAS YOUR SON, AND YOU TREATED HIM LIKE DIRT.

ALWAYS LEAVING HIM IN YOUR SHADOW AND HE NEVER GOT AN ENCOURAGING WORD FROM YOU.

HE WAS THE FIRST TO BE INFECTED BY YOUR DISEASED MIND.

YOU TOOK MY BEST FRIEND FROM ME, AND IT WASN'T ENOUGH.

YOU HAD TO TAKE GWEN TOO!

SHE WAS AN ***INNOCENT,*** NORMAN!

AND SHE MEANT ***EVERYTHING*** TO ME!

I'M ***NOT*** GOING TO LET YOU TAKE ANYTHING MORE.

NEVER AGAIN! ***NEVER!***

NEVER!

YOU HAVE NO IDEA!

YOU'RE GOING TO DIE ***RIGHT*** NOW...

...AND YOU'RE NOT GOING TO KNOW HOW MUCH I HAVE TAKEN FROM YOU!

EVERYTHING!

ABSOLUTELY EVERYTHING!

NO. IT JUST CAN'T HAPPEN THIS WAY.

IT CAN'T!

THWIP

LAY THERE, NORMAN. LAY THERE AND THINK OF HOW CLOSE YOU WERE TO SUCCEEDING. AND HOW YOU *FAILED!*

HOW THE GREAT NORMAN OSBORN COULDN'T STOP PUNY PETER PARKER.

SHE'S HERE.

SOMEWHERE.

THERE.

NO! IT *CAN'T* BE!

YOU HORRIBLE CREATURE!

HOW DID I GET HERE?

WHAT DO YOU **WANT** FROM ME?

NOOOO!

HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA

TO BE CONTINUED IN SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #263!